

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, then Senator Beutler.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I am faced with an incredibly difficult moral dilemma. The amendment that Don Dworak and Governor Kerrey brought to Senator Landis to tack onto his bill is a legitimate amendment and inasmuch as the attachment of the amendments simply continues to chip away at the United States Treasury, which we have been doing fairly regularly anyhow, there is no reason not to support the concept in the amendment, but they want to attach the amendment to a bill that probably has relatively limited life. Now Senator Landis and I know the story about the checkered history of LB 372. We recall how that came out of Revenue Committee one day in a moment of great peak when another tax credit bill came out of the Revenue Committee, LB 560, and we decided that once that bill was out of the committee well we would just go whole hog and we would send out of the committee LB 14 which this morning was not advanced and we also sent out LB 372 because we decided well once we had opened the door on 560 and LB 14 we might as well open the door for 372. Now 372 would not have gotten out of committee otherwise because it is a tax credit bill. It does carry a \$41,000 A bill but if you look at your fiscal note it also has a \$250,000 revenue loss anticipation over an annual revenue loss. And generally speaking the Revenue Committee has been very, very tough on these kinds of bills. It was "flukey" that it came out and I probab'ly would have done my duty on 372 even though I have some respect for the concept, I would have voted against the bill. If this amendment comes on the bill, however, and I support the amendment, it now makes the bill in such a shape that I am compelled to vote for it and more importantly, it puts the bill in such a shape that the Governor, our second house, is compelled to vote for it. Now I think the Governor ought to do, frankly, what everybody else around here has to do and is to find a shell of a bill that isn't going to go anyplace and run his amendment to that bill so that we are not put in this terrible moral dilemma of having to attach an amendment to a bill that we ultimately, that we should vote against. So I have decided that the better part of discretion this afternoon with respect to an amendment I